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NOTES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Amphibia, Anura, Microhylidae, *Chiasmocleis albopunctata*: Filling gap and geographic distribution map

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Chiasmocleis albopunctata (Figure 1) is a small microhylid frog recognized by the white or whitish bars on the region of snout, canthus rostralis, and upper eyelids; large whitish blotches over a gray background in ventral surfaces; and fingers and toes only slightly fringed (Caramaschi and Cruz 1997). According to Caramaschi and Cruz (1997) and Frost (2008), the geographic distribution of *C. albopunctata* is eastern Bolivia, Paraguay, and Brazil (Federal District and the states of Goiás, Mato Grosso, Mato Grosso do Sul, Minas Gerais and São Paulo). The geographic distribution presented by Caramaschi and Cruz (1997), Brasileiro et al. (2005) and Bertoluci et al. (2007) shows a gap of approximately 375 Km between the Itirapina Ecological Station (state of São Paulo) and Uberlândia (state of Minas Gerais), and another gap of approximately 503 Km between the Assis Ecological Station (state of São Paulo) and Maracajú (state of Mato Grosso do Sul) (Figure 2).

Figure 1. *Chiasmocleis albopunctata* from the municipality of Matão, São Paulo, Brazil. The arrow shows a white or whitish bar on the snout region, canthus rostralis, and upper eyelid, a diagnostic character of this species according to Caramaschi & Cruz (1997). Photo by V. H. M. Prado.

Recently, specimens of *C. albopunctata* were collected in five municipalities of northwestern and one municipality in the westernmost region of the state of São Paulo, filling the distribution gaps in this state (Figure 2). Specimens were identified according to the diagnosis presented by Caramaschi and Cruz (1997) and deposited in the *Coleção do Departamento de Zoologia e Botânica* (DZSJRP) housed at UNESP, São José do Rio Preto, state of São Paulo, and *Coleção Célio F. B. Haddad* (CFBH) housed at UNESP, Rio Claro, state of São Paulo.

Five specimens of *C. albopunctata* (DZSJRP 11746-1750) were collected in January 2008 by pitfall traps installed into Mesophytic Semideciduous Forest fragments in the municipalities of Novo Horizonte (21°31'33" S, 49°18'08" W), Macaubal (20°44'34" S, 49°55'42" W), and Matão (21°36'50" S, 48°32'03" W). One adult (DZSJRP 11384) and one lot of tadpoles (DZSJRP 1347-1) were collected in January 2008 in artificial ponds (1,5 x 1,0 x 0,3 m) installed in the edge and into Mesophytic Semideciduous Forest fragments in the municipality of Onda Verde (20°32'58" S, 49°14'59" W) and at the

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Pindorama Biological Reserve, municipality of Pindorama (21°13'20" S, 48°55'07" W), respectively. Eight adults (CFBH 10292, 18356, 18371, 18402; DZSJRP 11431, 11456-58) and two lots of tadpoles (CFBH 12084 and 14473) were collected between October 2005 and December 2007 in temporary ponds in the Morro do Diabo State Park, municipality of Teodoro Sampaio (22°31'38" S, 52°17'49" W).

Native vegetation at the northwestern region of the state of São Paulo, characterized by Mesophytic Semideciduous Forest and patches of *Cerrado* (South-American Savanna), have been replaced by pasture, plantations or urban areas, which reduced its original area to 4% (SMA/IF 2005). Nowadays, this region is considered the most deforested and fragmented region of the state (Kronka et al. 1993). According to Aquino et al. (2004), *C. albopunctata* is well adapted to anthropogenic disturbance and is normally associated with temporary water bodies and flooded areas in forests, grasslands, and fields, where it breeds. It is important to emphasize that all specimens cited in this study were recorded in conservation units in the state of São Paulo (Itirapina Ecological Station, Assis Ecological Station, Morro do Diabo State Park, and Pindorama Biological Reserve), as well as in fragments of Mesophytic Semideciduous Forest (municipalities of Matão, Macaubal, and Novo Horizonte). Although *C. albopunctata* breeds in ponds associated to pasture or agriculture areas, these new records indicate that habitat selection seems to be associated to the presence of forest fragments. Furthermore, the discovery of *C. albopunctata* in the northwestern region of the state of São Paulo shows that new records of Brazilian frogs may occur even on well sampled places, as already highlighted by Prado et al. (2008).

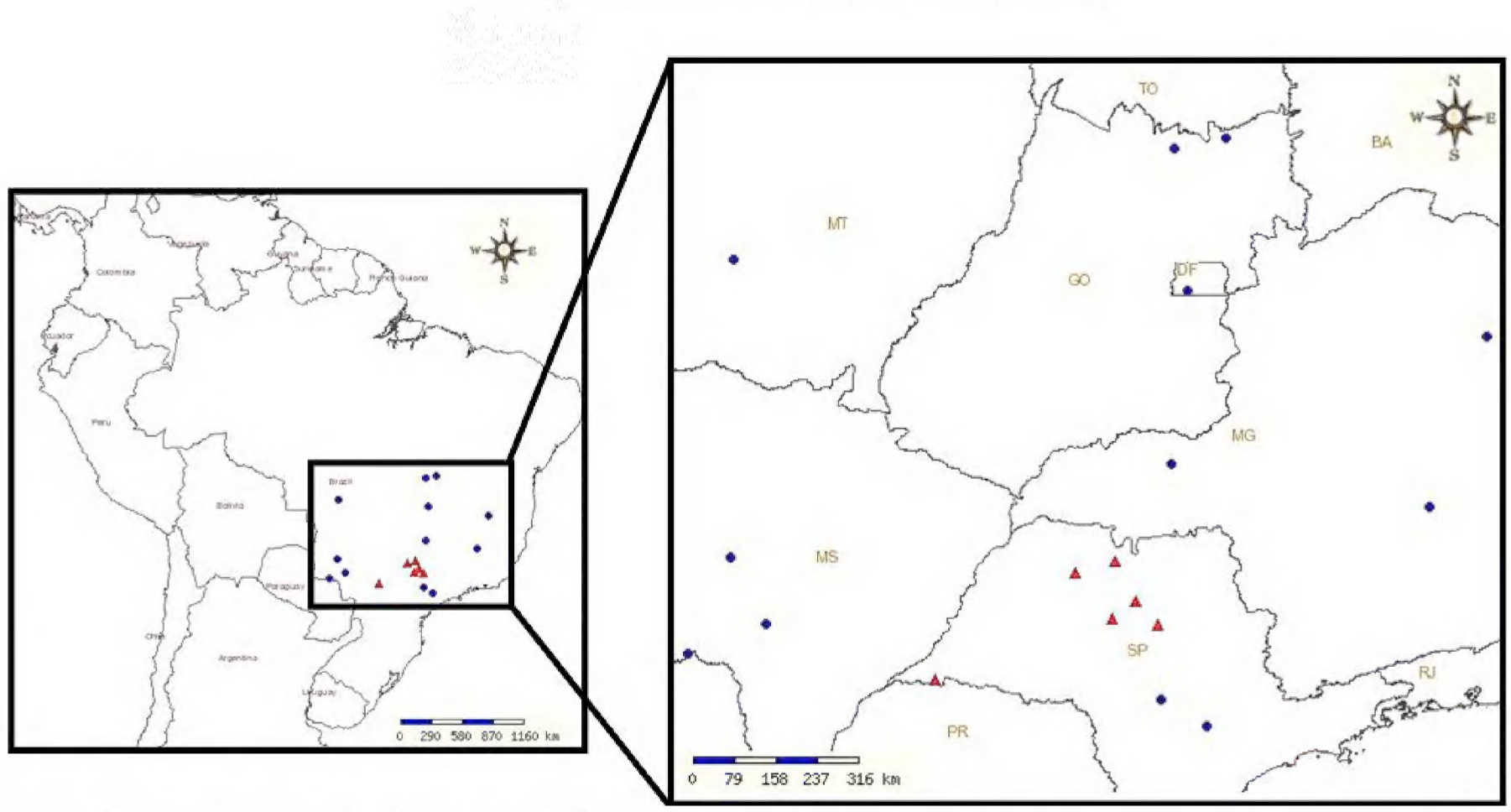

Figure 2. Geographic distribution map of *Chiasmocleis albopunctata*: blue circles represent known records from Caramaschi and Cruz (1997), Brasileiro et al. (2005), and Bertoluci et al. (2007); red triangles represent new records in São Paulo, Brazil.

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